

THE ANNUAL MEETINGS AT CHICAGO

The ninth annual meeting of The Wilson Ornithological Club was held at Chicago, Ill., on October 24th, 1922. In deference to the coincident meeting of The American Ornithologists Union, to which The Wilson Club was a joint host, the one session held was confined to the transaction of business matters and election of officers for the coming year. All program features were merged with those of The A. O. U. and every coöperation was extended to the latter body in an endeavor to make their first mid-west meeting the largest of any in its history.

The business meeting of The Wilson Club was opened with President Hankinson in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting were reported by Secretary Ganier as being published in full in the March, 1922, Wilson Bulletin. There being no corrections or additions it was moved and carried that they be accepted and adopted. A committee on nomination of officers for the coming year was named, consisting of Messrs. Stephens, Jones and Gault. The report of the President consisted of a resume of the work of The Club for the current year and suggestions for possible fields for activity during the year to come. The report of the Treasurer, being unavailable until the end of the fiscal year, was referred to The Council, to be handled at that time. The Secretary reported upon the various matters coming under his jurisdiction and presented the names of some sixty new applicants for membership. These, on motion, were referred to The Council for final handling. The Secretary also announced the resignation of Treasurer Fordyce and requested that his own resignation be accepted. After discussion a motion was offered and adopted accepting both resignations and thanking the retiring officers for the services they had rendered. Dr. Jones, Editor of The Wilson Bulletin, was called upon for a word in connection with the official organ. He called attention to the fact that for the past year The Bulletin was averaging 64 pages per number, illustrated, and that in spite of the raise in dues during the current year the continued high cost of printing would probably consume the full income from memberships and subscriptions. He made a plea for more short field notes and reviews of current publications which bear on the inland area. A motion, according Dr. Jones the thanks and appreciation of The Club for his services during the current year, was offered and adopted.

The matter of getting the official organ to more bird students in the middle west, including Boy Scout Masters, was brought up by Mr. P. B. Coffin. Mr. Stoddard suggested that a special effort should be made to get The Bulletin to all bird banders not now members. The chair appointed Messrs. Coffin, Test, Boyd, and Eifrig, a committee to consummate the suggestions.

Dr. Swenk, Secretary of the Nebraska Ornithologists Union, reported that the revised articles of affiliation between that organization and the Wilson Club had been duly signed and the matter concluded. Secretary Gainer reported that The Tennessee Ornithological Society wished to take steps to effect a similar affiliation. On motion, The Council was instructed to take up the matter with power to act.

Dr. T. C. Stephens inaugurated a discussion as to plans for holding future meetings, in which the idea was advanced that The Club should distribute its meetings throughout its territory so as to build up interest in the various sections. Following favorable comment the matter was referred to The Council for study and designation of the next meeting place.

The committee on nominations was called on to report and as a result the following officers were elected for the year 1923:

President, Thos L. Hankinson, State Normal College, Ypsilanti,, Mich.

Vice-president, Dayton Stoner, 603 Summit St., Iowa City, Iowa.

Treasurer, Wm. I. Lyon, 124 Washington St., Waukegan, Ill.

Secretary, Gordon Wilson, 1434 Chestnut St., Bowling Green, Ky.

A vote of thanks was extended Mr. P. B. Coffin for the arrangements he had made for the dinner and place of meeting at The City Club.

All business having been disposed of, the meeting adjourned sine die.

The Chicago meeting of The American Ornithologists Union was the first to be held inland by this national organization and The Wilson Club, The Field Museum, The Illinois Audubon Society, and The Chicago Ornithological Club were given the pleasure of being joint hosts to that organization. The active work of the smaller organizations during previous years was, in part at least, responsible for paving the way to a record-breaking attendance at the sessions of the A. O. U. The lecture hall of the magnificent new Field Museum of Natural History was used for the public sessions. The Museum itself with its rich collections was a source of great interest to all visitors. Dr. Osgood, Curator of the Department of Zoölogy and Chairman of the local committee, had also provided a splendid exhibition of photographs and paintings of bird-life. The three-day program was replete with interest and included some splendid photographic work both in still and motion picture. Bird-banding activities consumed the time of one morning session while the reading of the more technical papers was segregated to a separate meeting room in order that papers of more general interest could be gotten through with in the time available. Detailed discussion of the program and the subsequent trips afield are deferred to the Secretary of the A. O. U., and will doubtless be found in the next number of *The Auk*.

A feature of the Chicago meeting was the organization of The Inland Bird-banding Association, the object of which will be to further this work and enlist new interest in banding in the interior section of North America. In another column, Mr. Wm. I. Lyon, who was elected Secretary of the new organization, will have more to say of its hopes and purposes for the future.

As a whole, the Chicago gathering of bird students was a great success and with its representation from the east, south, mid-west, Pacific coast and Canada, is well deserves to go on record as the most representative and democratic meeting of ornithologists yet held in this country.

ALBERT F. GANIER,
Secretary.